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From: Bloomberg Environment - Environment & Energy Report
Sent: Mon 6/4/2018 8:09:05 PM
Subject: Environment & Energy Report Highlights

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

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Highlights

LEADING THE NEWS

Trump Administration Wades Into Fight Over Navajo Coal Plant

By Stephen Lee

The Trump administration is coming to the aid of a giant Arizona power plant that has become an important symbol of the White House's efforts to save the troubled coal sector.

Confusion Drives Firms Away From EPA Waste Tracking System (1)

By Sylvia Carignan

Companies are perplexed about how to use the EPA's new electronic tracking system for hazardous waste shipments, convincing some not to participate a month ahead of the system's launch.

New Chemical Tests Need More Industry, Regulator Conversations

By Ayanna Alexander

Federal developers of new chemical safety tests that don't use animals need to engage industry representatives and regulators who are in a position to adopt those methods, a federal testing director said.

Chemical Board Closure Threat Found to Repel Job-Seekers: Audit

By Sam Pearson

The Trump administration's push to eliminate the Chemical Safety Board is preventing the agency from

attracting and keeping staff, and board members too often pursue individual agendas in ways that harm morale, the EPA's inspector general found June 4.

TODAY'S NEWS

Perry Sees Power Grid Attacks 'Coming' as He Makes Bailout Case

By Ari Natter

U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry said June 4 cyberattacks on the grid are imminent as he linked the security of the nation's power system to efforts by the Trump administration to bail out struggling coal and nuclear plants.

DowDupont Seed Boss Bets on DNA Edits, Big Data as Spinoff Nears

By Jack Kaskey

Deep inside Corteva Agriscience's Midwest laboratories, the food of the future is taking shape.

EPA Aide Helped Pruitt Arrange Trips, Find Housing, Buy Mattress (1)

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy and Billy House

A top EPA aide helped agency chief Scott Pruitt try to buy a used mattress from the Trump International Hotel, one of several personal tasks she conducted for the administrator whose sleeping arrangements have already prompted investigations.

White House Is Said to Announce Compromise on Biofuel Changes

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy, Jennifer Jacobs, and Mario Parker

The Trump administration is slated to unveil biofuel policy changes, including efforts to tamp down costs for refiners while broadening the market for ethanol, according to people familiar with the action.

Aquila Mine Permit Approved Despite Wisconsin Tribe's Lawsuit

By Alex Ebert

Aquila Resources Inc. received the go-ahead from Michigan regulators to build its Back Forty open pit mine despite a Wisconsin American Indian tribe's lawsuit claiming only the EPA can issue the permit.

California Lawmakers Are Said to Consider Wildfire Relief Fund

By Mark Chediak and Romy Varghese

California lawmakers are said to be considering a proposal to help utilities shoulder billions of dollars in potential liability costs while offering relief to wildfire victims by setting up a compensation fund that would be backed by the state and the power companies.

Maryland, Delaware Riled Over EPA Air Complaints Snub

By *Leslie A. Pappas*

Maryland and Delaware may sue the EPA over pollution from upwind out-of-state power plants after the agency shrugged at the states' pleas for help.

A Burning Question for Texas: What to Do with All That Gas?

By Ryan Collins

Texas is facing a burning question that's pitting the state's economy against its environment, and oil drillers against each other.

U.K. Reaches Draft Deal to Ensure Nuclear Supply After Brexit

By Jonathan Tirone

The U.K. reached an accord with international inspectors that will help keep the flow of nuclear materials going after the country leaves the European Union.

Going Greener Can Get You Cheaper Loans at This Dutch Bank

By Anna Hirtenstein

Going green is more than just a question of morality at ING Groep NV. It can also result in cheaper funds.

China's Push to Cut Solar Growth Means Cheaper Panels for All

By *Christopher Martin*

China's plan to tap the brakes on solar-farm development will make projects cheaper to build elsewhere around the globe.

Dark Days for China's Solar as Subsidy Cuts Add to Tariff Threat

By Bloomberg News

It's shaping up to be a gloomy year for China's solar industry.

EWP Renewable Faces \$125,000 Fine After Biomass Plant Fatality

By Leslie A. Pappas

EWP Renewable Corp., a New Jersey renewable energy company, is facing more than \$125,000 in proposed fines after an employee at its New Hampshire biomass facility was killed in a conveyor belt.

Rising Black Lung Cases Could Cost Miners' Health Fund Billions (Corrected) (1)

By Sam Pearson

Lower federal taxes on coal producers and declining coal production could create billions in deficits for a fund that pays for miners' health care costs, according to a federal report.

Man's Negligence Claims Over Wife's Moldy Home Purchase OK

By Peter Hayes

The husband of a woman who bought a home contaminated with toxic mold may pursue negligence claims against the seller, a California appeals court said.

FRIDAY NIGHT WRAPUP

Fracking Limits Near Playgrounds Among Rules on Hold by Penn. Court

By Leslie A. Pappas

Portions of Pennsylvania's hydraulic fracturing regulations that restrict drilling near playgrounds and other public spaces can remain on hold pending a legal challenge from a coalition of natural gas developers, the state's Supreme Court ruled June 1.

White House Told EPA to Ready California Autos Challenge in 2017

By Ryan Beene

President Donald Trump was mulling a move to revoke California's authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light trucks during his earliest days in office, an email released through a public-records request shows.

Zone Before You Frack, Pennsylvania Court Tells Local Governments

By Leslie A. Pappas

Local governments in Pennsylvania must amend their zoning ordinances to specifically allow for gas drilling, the state's Supreme Court ruled June 1 in a decision that sided with Lycoming County property owners opposed to fracking near their land.

Some Chemical Uses Ignored in EPA Risk Plans (Corrected)

By Pat Rizzuto

The EPA will disregard certain ways people could be exposed to chemicals if air, water, food, or other laws already apply to those exposures.

Worker Risks Feared as EPA Asbestos Probe Excludes Past Uses

By Sam Pearson and Adam Allington

The Environmental Protection Agency's evaluation of asbestos' risks will move forward without examining exposures to the mineral that are still in buildings, a decision opposed by labor unions, advocacy groups, and Democratic lawmakers.

Trump's Coal, Nuke Push Pegged to Security Threats to Gas Pipes

By Naureen S. Malik

President Donald Trump, who made saving mining jobs an earmark of his campaign, is pointing to natural gas's vulnerability to hackers as justification for bailing out struggling coal-fired and nuclear power plants.

Using Defense Law to Boost Coal Would Be a First for Nonemergency

By Rebecca Kern

The White House's use of a Korean War-era defense law as a basis for keeping certain coal and nuclear plants online would be unprecedented in the absence of an electricity reliability emergency, legal experts told Bloomberg Environment.

Angry at Utility's Spending, Lawmaker Seeks Cut in CEO Pay to \$1

By Ari Natter

A lawmaker angry over allegations of mismanagement at a federal power company is proposing to cut the CEO's pay to \$1.

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